

WIRELESS MESSAGES  
FROM  
HOME MISSION STATIONS

## Young People's Work

FOR THE USE OF ALL ORGANIZATIONS OF  
PRESBYTERIAN YOUNG PEOPLE

WOMAN'S BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS  
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.  
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## YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK

# Wireless Messages From Home Mission Stations

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### The Transmitter.

The first number of "Wireless Messages" received such an ovation that we take real pleasure in sending forth Number Two. It is the desire of the secretary to make the news from all home mission stations available for all young people's organizations rather than limit the information and the inspiration of missionary letters to the one field, station or worker for which a society may be contributing.

The "messages" are grouped according to fields and stations and in alphabetical order. As some societies thought the first number contained no message for them because their synod was not mentioned in connection with a special letter, we have in this number omitted special references to the states, and expect societies to recognize their own missionaries or stations.

Home Mission Stations and missionaries are assigned as indicated in the following lists:

ALABAMA—Porto Rico  
ARKANSAS—Alaska  
ARIZONA—Porto Rico  
BALTIMORE—Indian  
CALIFORNIA—Indian, Mountain  
COLORADO—Porto Rico  
ILLINOIS—Porto Rico  
INDIANA—Alaska  
IOWA—Mountain, Cuba  
KANSAS—Mountain, New Mexico  
KENTUCKY—Mountain  
MICHIGAN—Mountain  
MINNESOTA—Porto Rico  
MISSOURI—Indian, Mormon  
MISSISSIPPI—Porto Rico  
MONTANA—Indian  
NEBRASKA—Mountain

NEW ENGLAND—Porto Rico  
NEW JERSEY—New Mexico, Porto Rico  
NEW MEXICO—Porto Rico  
NEW YORK—Alaska  
NORTH DAKOTA—Mountain  
NORTH PACIFIC—Porto Rico  
OHIO—Indian, Mountain  
OKLAHOMA—Alaska  
PENNSYLVANIA—Indian, New Mexico  
Alaska  
SOUTH DAKOTA—Porto Rico  
TENNESSEE—Mountain  
TEXAS—Indian  
UTAH—Indian  
WEST VIRGINIA—Indian  
WISCONSIN—New Mexico

In which field is **your** missionary stationed, or in which missionary station have you a share? March ends the fiscal year of the Woman's Board of Home Missions. In fact, it is the General Assembly fiscal year and the treasurers of all Boards of the church close with March 31st. Presbyterian treasurers must close their books before this date in order to have the money in the Woman's Board treasury. Are you "in it" or are you left out? Have **you** some one in the missionary trenches for whom you pray? Are you behind that "substitute" in your thoughts? Do you know how the battle is going? How about recruits for the front from your society? These are pertinent and personal questions but as true soldiers under our great Leader we should face fairly and squarely every one of them. With April we begin a new fiscal year, and the financial record of a society is the indicator of its vitality to those at "headquarters".

A few explanations seem necessary. This pamphlet is not sent to Junior and Intermediate leaders, nor to Little Light Bearers, Light Bearers, Young Women's societies nor the Westminster Guild unless by special request. Each organization has its own separate letter, or, as in the case of the Westminster Guild Chapters and Circles, a special pamphlet (The W. G. Bulletin—issued three times a year, subscription price fifteen cents or five cents per copy.) Scholarship holders are entitled to the pamphlet "Scholarship News". A small group of societies contributing the salary of one missionary may expect three letters a year, duplicated at this office, and usually mailed direct to the contributor.

Do not send parcels to the missionaries, nor to home mission stations without first consulting the secretary at headquarters. Some workers were over-burdened with supplies of this kind during the past year, while stations were forgotten.

Do not send old postal cards nor any scrap books to Porto Rico. They have quantities "to burn". Be on the safe, helpful side and ask the secretary before sending any parcels to any station.

### **The Receiver.**

Unless notified to send direct to local addresses, the parcel of these pamphlets is sent to the presbyterial young people's secretary for distribution. Each society should have one. Did you receive your October number? If not, we have a limited supply on hand and will gladly fill orders, while they last. We make no charge for "Wireless Messages" but when ordering one or more copies the postage should be enclosed. Every stamp counts in the administration of any such work.

Failure to notify the presbyterial secretary of any changes in the name and address of the secretary of a local society, or the chairman of the missionary committee, may result in depriving the society of all field news. The presbyterial young people's secretary is supposed to keep samples of all publications expressly intended for young people.

### **The Transformer.**

Have you seen the "Twelve Christian Endeavor Missionary Programs" for 1916? Send at once, and be in time for the next home missionary topic, "Great Home Missionaries". Send also for leaflets.

Secure a copy of "Comrades in Service" (price cloth 60 cents, paper 40 cents postpaid) and use with the six programs arranged for a review of that book. This series should be of special interest to boys and young men.

Do not confine the use of this pamphlet to the one message nor for one meeting. Quote from it until all the ammunition has been exhausted.

### **A Good "Transformer."**

What summer conference are you to attend, or will your society send delegates? Where?

## ALASKA

The Alaska budget is a full one this time. Here are the messages:

THE first is from MR. JOHNS, Superintendent of the Sheldon Jackson Training School: "Last fall and this winter have been trying times for the native people. During the summer most of the cannery operators specified what kinds of fish could be brought in by the fishermen. These were the kinds that are not usually caught by the traps. This meant a limiting of the fishing that the native people might do, since the fish traps were being relied upon altogether to provide certain varieties of fish for cannery use. It did not mean a smaller pack at any canning plant for last year was a record breaker in the packing of fish in Alaska, but it showed clearly that the fish trap is to do away largely with the employing of native fishermen in such numbers as formerly. This is to complicate the native problem, since fishing has been a leading industry with most of them.

The trials of the native people naturally register at the schools which the children attend. Pupils of last year have written that they have to remain at home and help with the work this winter because they did not make enough in fishing to provide the winter supplies. Our plan for indenturing the pupils has also had a tendency in some cases to keep children from entering. You know, perhaps, that the indenture provides for the children remaining in school for a period of years. Although many of the native people see the benefit of this arrangement some are unwilling to have the children stay during the summer months. This class of native people prefers the few dollars a boy or girl might make in some camp or cannery where moral conditions are deplorable to leaving the young people in school where proper influences surround them continually.

Yet in spite of these things and the great amount of sickness among the natives at the close of last summer we have had a larger enrollment than last year, and so far the year has been one of progress and encouragement.

You will be interested, no doubt, in the account of an experience which our pupils enjoyed in November and December. A director of operas and musical concerts arranged to come here after closing a series of entertainments in Douglas and Juneau. He had never worked with native young people and he wanted to see what he might be able to do with our pupils. We decided on "Pinafore" and because these boys and girls are naturally sailors as well as being decidedly musical in makeup they liked the play with the nautical setting and took to Mr. Robinson's instruction like ducks to water. From the initial practice until the evening of the performance, the pupils who took part and the ones who were permitted to hear the rehearsals were very enthusiastic. I believe I told you last year that our pupils were advancing well with parts on public programs. This advance was shown in "Pinafore," and because of their connection

with this play they were given confidence for other entertainments. Mr. Robinson made the following announcements through the columns of the Juneau papers after working with our pupils:

"Sitka gave me the finest chorus for the production of 'Pinafore' that I have heard in Alaska," said Martin E. Robinson, musical director, who left Sunday morning for Ketchikan. Mr. Robinson returned Saturday from Sitka, where he presented "Pinafore" in the Sheldon Jackson native mission to a large audience."

The Christmas program which was Lorenz's Santa Claus and Company was the latest effort of our boys and girls in this line, and they did exceptionally good work. They were drilled in this selection by our teachers and the program was given in the school gymnasium Christmas night. The audience was more than pleased with the pupil's work.

All these little glimpses will be of interest to you, of course, but since our labors and your gifts are for the transforming of the minds and hearts of the young people in our mission schools as well as for their physical betterment, you will be pleased to hear about some fruits of the harvest that this year has brought forth. At our first communion service November seventh, thirty-nine pupils representing groups in the four dormitory buildings made their Christian profession. You will rejoice with us over this result. Surely we have great reason for encouragement. What price would you place on thirty-nine human souls? What possibilities are wrapped up in these young lives? What opportunities for Christian service are here? Perhaps many of them are to lead their people in spiritual things. Surely some of them will.

There are other things I thought of telling you about as I sat down to write, but this may be enough for one time. If your interest increases because of the glimpses you get of the work from time to time, we who view the work from the standpoint of the field, are glad of the chance to address you.—C. L. Johns.

MRS. ROSS REED writes: "It is my humble confession that it is entirely my fault the societies supporting Mr. Reed have not heard from us for I promised to write for him. Perhaps if I tell you the reason why I have neglected it you will be indulgent and forgive me. Keeping house is an entirely new experience and I find it most engaging. I am blissfully ignorant of what to cook and how to cook it, so I just sit down with my little cook book and select what sounds the most attractive and then proceed. You can imagine the creations that are fearfully and wonderfully made.

The other day Mr. Reed came in and found me pouring over the helpful hints for the young housekeeper. He thought it was a joke, but I know it to be quite necessary for his well being. I feel very proud of myself since I have roasted both a wild goose and a duck besides making the dressing, a thing I always supposed far beyond my accomplishments.

I wish every one who has contributed toward our house and furniture could see how comfortable and convenient everything is. We are the more proud of it because Mr. Reed did all the work, even to making the chimney.

It is hard to find a location in Sitka that isn't beautiful, for the mountains and bay are visible from every point. We think we have an exceptionally attractive site. The house, which is shingled, sits on a little knoll sloping down to the water's edge, and the evergreen trees are on three sides of us. We have the grandest big view looking out over the island-bedecked bay and up toward the foot of the mountains that nestle at their base numerous little bays and inlets.

But I want to tell you about the plan of the house for we find it so satisfactory and think it very artistic too. The large front room which overlooks the bay is both dining and living room with twelve large windows in groups of three each. The finish is very decorative, for Mr. Reed selected the best grained pieces and then sand-papered and stained each piece until the grain shows up plainly. It is the dull finish, flemish oak I think. I told him he fondled and caressed each piece so much that he rubbed off all the rough spots. To harmonize with the finish we selected light brown oatmeal paper which extends to the ceiling with only the narrow picture moulding for a finish. It gives a quaint old fashioned appearance that I like very much.

The curtains are tan scrim two for each window and the extension across the top, for in winter the days are so short and dark that we must admit all the light possible.

The furniture is weathered oak in the plainest design. For a bright color to relieve an otherwise dull monotony in brown and tan the rugs have a green background with a design in darker green and brown. Also my Indian blanket couch cover gives a riot of color in one corner of the room.

It was too expensive for us to be connected with the steam heat from the school so we have a heating stove and it gives such a cheerful glow in the evenings. Our lights are brushed brass, square frosted globes, in two groups of four each.

The kitchen with white finish and built-in cupboards, is off the dining room and the bedroom papered in old ivory and dull finish is off the living room. Between the bedroom and the kitchen are the bath room and the linen closet. On the back porch is a closet for Mr. Reed's rubber boots and other in-the-way-stuff that he uses for out of door work.

Now I've told it all except for the ferns in buckets, baskets, vases and fern dishes decorate window seat, tables, bookcase and stand. There is no excuse for one not having all the out of doors in the house that one wants for the seaward ferns, maiden hair ferns, tree ferns, big and little and lots of varieties of lovely long fluffy moss grow at our very doors.

I hope that because of my negligence due to my newly acquired husband you will not accuse us of indifference to your help and interest."

Read this testimony of the Sitka work from Mr. Beattie of Juneau now Government Superintendent of public schools:

"There are a number of men and women who have gone out from the Sheldon Jackson School living quiet, good lives in their various communities. Last spring, I was asked how many former pupils of the Sitka School I know personally were living good lives and after jotting down names as I thought of them for three or four days, I had 156."—W. G. Beattie, Juneau.

Note this of Alaska, quoted from a recent newspaper:

"In 1914 Alaska's commerce exceeded the total commerce of the United States with China by more than \$8,000,000, and was 21 per cent. of the entire commerce of all the United States with all the countries of South America. Alaska's white population was then only about 40,000. This year's comparison is going to be far more startling."

Such statements make our work for the **human beings** of growing imperativeness especially that for the natives. The following "side lights" from the reports of Sunday Schools indicate some of the difficulties our missionaries contend with. "Lack of teachers." "Uninterested parents." "Rain 12 months of the year." "Bad weather and poor equipment." "Sunday employment." "Natives off fishing six months of the year." "White children ruined by amusements."

## INDIAN FIELD

From "Old Dwight" Oklahoma we have the following messages: "As I sat down to write you this morning, I thought of how long it is since Miss Petrie introduced us. It has made me feel how really well acquainted we should be. As I write we are entering into 1916 with all it may hold for us and my wish and prayer for each one of you is that every day may be a blessed Today, that the Yesterdays may never be a disappointment to be grieved over, and the Tomorrows may never need to be worried over, but every Today lived not only to be a blessing to yourself, but to some one else. Many times throughout the year I shall think of you and your splendid interest in Dwight and all our Indian boys and girls you are helping to educate.

The Christmas Bells rang merrily at Old Dwight although a little earlier than usual, for our vacation began on the twenty-third, thus giving the students time to reach home before the twenty-fifth. On the morning of the twenty-second, between three and four o'clock we were awakened by most beautiful Christmas carols sung by ten of the older girls and Mrs. Robe. I think we must have felt



something as the Shepherds did that night, for as they sung, 'Holy Night' and 'Under the Stars One Silent Night,' it seemed as if the Christ Child was very near. That was the beginning of a beautiful day at Dwight. After they had sung the Christmas carols they all went into the girls sitting room and told Christmas stories until the bugle for rising blew, then came out on the campus and sung again, so that when we came to breakfast, although it was only the twenty-second, we were a great happy family, each one with the blessed Christmas spirit. That night we had a cedar Christmas tree with candy, nuts, dolls, books, handkerchiefs, ribbons, neckties, toys, etc., which our friends of the Young People's Societies and Missionary Societies had provided. I cannot tell you how happy we all were, but one thing is sure, every boy and girl who left Dwight that night or the next day, took with them into their homes in different parts of Oklahoma, the real and true Christmas spirit. Let me tell you a little incident. By some mistake when the presents were put on the tree, one parcel had been laid aside and overlooked so that when everything was off, one boy had nothing. My attention was called to it and I said, 'Thomas, yours must be coming on the next train, for surely Santa Claus had your name.' He said, 'That is all right, Mr. Robe,' and went right on enjoying himself looking at what the other boys had. Of course his gifts were found immediately, but even if they had not been he would not have let it spoil his Christmas. Not every lad is so brave.

We do not have an assembly room at Dwight, so that although we have a large community of Indian people around us we cannot invite them to come to our services and entertainments. This year we decided that since we were having early vacation on Christmas Eve we would do something for the people of the community. The teachers prepared a short program, we used the same Christmas tree, gathered together a little gift for each one and invited the Indian people who live near. We had a room full and when it was over we sent them home, happier than they had ever been before at Christmas time perhaps.

For weeks before vacation we have been receiving letters asking for places for new students after the holidays. Some day with your help, we hope to be able to take all who want to come. The hardest thing we have to do is say 'No room.' One mother wrote for room and a good room mate for her boy. She said she was very particular who her son roomed with. You see all mother's are alike, whether they be Indian or Caucasian, they want their boys to have the best surroundings and this is the thing we give them at Dwight. Our boys' dormitory was finished just the week before Christmas and thirty-six of our boys moved in. We wanted awfully to stretch it so we could put in more beds, but the carpenter left out all the rubber and now we cannot see any other way but that we and you will have to pray and work until we get another one, for we cannot use the old camp house any more and we cannot turn our boys away, can we?

So far this has been a splendid year. We are so glad for the wonderful improvement in all our students. They have done well in school, at their outside work, in athletics, and in things religious.

When you think of the young people at Dwight, think of them as having just such aspirations and desires as you yourselves have, and help us build them for Eternity.—**John M. Robe.**

**A**T the opening of school the old "Camp House" and the log cabin were filled to the limit but not a word of complaint did we hear from any one.

Shortly before Christmas the boys were made happy by enjoying the comforts of the new building before leaving for the holiday vacation and are delighted with the modern conveniences that they have so long patiently waited for. Still the new building is not large enough to accommodate all the boys and some are obliged to room in the log cabin.

The shower bath was quite a new thing to the boys and our smallest boy, "Baby Bruner," as he is termed, needed quite a little persuasion that it would not hurt him, but once under it, began laughing and saying, "It is just like rain."

The boys are very much interested in their athletic games and for the first year at basket ball have won several match games and played some close games with more practiced teams.

The spirit of willingness to do the right, the breaking off of old habits, the physical change and development, the effort put forth to live a cleaner and better life is greater and more encouraging. The interest in church and the Sabbath School is very marked and these boys and girls are always ready to lead the Christian Endeavor meetings, many for the first time and they need quite a little assistance in the preparation. Some who are older in the service of the Master lead in sentence prayer. One boy remarked he could make a good prayer in his own language but could not pray in public in good English.

Boys and girls almost grown to manhood and womanhood enter the primer and first grade alongside of those who have had the advantage of earlier training and besides that they have to learn a new language. This shows how eager they are for an education in the English language. Are they here for the fun of it?

While we are glad to see the change, improvement and growing interest among these boys and girls who come to us, still I cannot refrain from a plea for a school building or a church building where we can have a large assembly room so that the surrounding community may have a place to join us in the Sabbath services. They need the Christian influence too and since the loss of our school building by fire, they have been deprived of this privilege. Many do not come on account of lack of room.

The students themselves say that we take an interest in them and nowhere else can they have the Christian training as they get it at "Old Dwight." What part are you taking in the upbuilding and

strengthening of the character of these young lives intrusted to our care and training?—**Nellie S. Long.**

THE next letters are from the Training School at Tucson, Arizona: "I must frankly confess that I do not know what you would like to hear about the Manual Training work here. To begin with it is not like Manual Training as you know it. I have had some experience in teaching white boys, but it did me little good here for I found the Indian boys have to be approached in an entirely different manner. Can you imagine a boy twelve to fourteen years old who has never used any tool, except possibly an ax? Of course in building the native houses there is little use for tools except a shovel and an ax, so there is a scarcity of edge tools on the reservation.

The equipment for Manual Training work is quite limited—just bench tools for wood work and no power saw or planer, thus necessitating hard work getting out stock and also limiting the extent of work done. There are fifty-four boys taking the work, some of whom can understand very little English. In fact, I have to call on others to interpret the instructions I give. We use soft wood entirely as hard wood has to be shipped in from the coast and is very expensive. The boys make three models, bill file, bread board and coat hanger, and then they choose what they wish to make. Bird houses, tie boxes, foot stools, letter boxes, necktie racks and magazine stands are some of the articles they choose. One boy in the second grade made a magazine stand last year that would be a credit to the average eighth grade pupil.

This year the boys are making writing tables for the dormitories and will also make a set of pigeon holes to go with each table. The boys seem more interested in the work this year than they did last, because it was all new to them and they preferred out-door work. They are not initiative because they have no previous experiences to draw on. I find this year the boys respond better to suggestions about their work. They have developed some ideas and a few have a clear conception of what they wish to make on their own initiative. The work is extremely interesting and once a person starts with them it is hard to part from them.—**Charles D. Ransier**

"I wish you might have seen the picturesque crowd of Indian boys and girls who drove for miles over the hot, hazy desert to enter our school last fall. Girls scarcely twelve years old were gowned in bright purple or cerise colored dresses reaching to their ankles. Others who had more somber clothes wore the gay colored head scarf so popular with the Indian women. Little brown feet and legs made no boast whatsoever of hiding themselves. And the little boys—what a sight they were! The summer sun had burned a double coat of deepest brown, and those big sparkling eyes peeped shyly out from beneath tattered hat brims, or in many cases only heavy shocks of black hair that gave the head a striking resemblance to miniature thatched Hawaiian houses. On the other hand, many of the pupils had so far adopted the American taste in dressing as to do away with the picturesque Indian features. They came to us handsome young

men and women. We love both types; the first, because of the romance each of us unconsciously treasures for the Indian and his native customs; the second, because it bespeaks the refining influence of our school.

One half of the school year has slipped away as quickly as the silent line of white robed children descending the stairway in fire drill. The older boys and girls are heart and soul in Christian Endeavor work, as they have not been for a long time. The societies have the necessary officers and committees for work. Never yet have we found a child unwilling to lead. Their meetings are not elaborately planned, yet there is an earnestness in the very simplicity of the program. Sometimes we wait for one to begin a short prayer, but surely our Father hears most graciously those who find it difficult to speak. These are not selfish prayers. Especially do they remember the friends who make such pleasant surroundings possible for them.

How the big boys do sing! They fairly split their throats and seem to never tire of the good old gospel songs. One girl said to me, after she had led a meeting at the beginning of the year, 'When may I lead again?' I found her interest to be genuine, for at her request, a C. E. society has been organized in her home village during the summer. We hope that several may grow up during the next vacation as a result of this year's interest.

But could you have heard just before the dawn of the glorious Christmas day, Indian voices caroling:

'Hark the herald angels sing,  
Glory to the new born king,'

you would have brushed away a tear and said with us, 'God bless and prosper His precious Spirit among our Indian boys and girls.'—  
**Florence Sawhill.**

**T**WO days before Christmas it looked as if the children would not have much for their stockings, so with a little money sent to me and that supplemented by help from the teachers we bought a few more things to fill in. This was on the evening of the 23rd. On the 24th I again called at our freight office and this time was most amply rewarded by the receipt of two large boxes well filled with just the things we needed.

Let me tell you of our Christmas entertainment. How pleasant it would have been to have had many of our friends present. The program was extremely simple, intended merely to present the true spirit of the season. One of our merchants in town gave us a nice evergreen which came from Colorado, as we have none near us. This was beautifully decorated in the usual way. The large number of dolls sitting around among the branches added to its attractiveness. Mr. Ransier, our manual training teacher, arranged the electric lights and illumined the tree with them. To make the tree more brilliant the light from our little picture machine was turned on and all other lights turned off. 'Joy to the World' was then thrown on the screen and sung most heartily. A series of pictures of the Christ Child were

then shown and explained. Miss McSpadden read the story of the birth as recorded by Luke. Then followed more songs by chorus and quartette. Miss Atwater read 'Why the Chimes Rang.' After more music the gifts were distributed. One of the boys acted as Santa Claus. When all the gifts were distributed the lights were again turned off, save those on the tree and from memory all sang very softly, 'Silent Night, Holy Night.' The effect was remarkable and we white folks could see how clearly these children had caught the true spirit of the occasion. All seem so happy and seem to catch the truth that it was because of the love of Christ these good times are made possible.

—M. L. Girton.

From the California Indians to the California Young People:

"In our last 'wireless' we told you of the days just before the fall term began. One by one the girls came back as their families returned to the mountains, and we found place for twenty-one girls, the most we have ever had. Two came just recently. How glad we are to observe that their reception and initiation at the hands of the other girls have been ever so much more kindly and thoughtful than hitherto.

All but four of the girls went to their homes after the Christmas festivities so we enjoyed a little rest, but now we are at work again and ready for the spring term. But I wonder if you realize how many, many letters there are to be written by missionaries even in vacation time? We do not regret that, however, for many are in acknowledgment of the gifts of thoughtful friends scattered far and wide throughout California.

Our fall term was a very full one. It was shorter than usual, and many of the girls had the Grippe. We had almost an epidemic of it. Even our horse failed us for a time. Then came preparation for Christmas Day, when the girls give Christmas exercises for the entertainment of their Indian relatives and friends. When we remember the total lack of any previous home training to aid them, we find great encouragement in the way girls carry out their parts. A new and very pleasant task was to aid the older girls in preparing gifts of their own, and we were delighted with their success.

There is practically nothing at present for the boys here, other than the Church and Sunday School services. But we have had five of them in the school room with the girls. They come from two families who have been camping in a corner of the Mission grounds so that they might give their boys this chance.

One more thing must be told—very often we have occasion to realize that our girls are growing up under influences, the wholesomeness and purity of which are markedly in contrast with what they would otherwise experience. And herein we find the joy that comes when fruit of one's labors can be seen, and encouragement for greater efforts to truly serve Him by helping them.—Dorothy Damkroger.

From Montana to the Montana Young People:

"Once again have the children's hearts been gladdened by the cheer and good will of the Christmas tide. How eagerly they watched all the boxes and packages as they came in, wondering what they contained! How they counted not only the days but the hours until the Christmas tree!

We held our entertainment on Thursday evening; the capacity of the church being taxed to the utmost by the parents and friends of the children. Most of the children went to their homes on Friday morning and returned the first Monday of the new year.

A Christmas service was held in our chapel Friday evening. The talks were of Christ's coming, and what it meant to the world, the service being based entirely on the Bible. Various members had been given topics upon which to speak. One told the story of Christ from the time of the prophecy of His birth; another of God's gift of His son to this world, and what it has meant to us that church, school and the many blessings we enjoy have come to us through this gift. The service closed with the singing of 'God Be With You Till We Meet Again' in English. One of our oldest girls presided at the organ very creditably. As this was her first public playing her parents and friends were unusually proud of her success.

During the past two years the Mormons have been busily working among our people. This fall they opened a day school, and a few weeks ago dedicated their church. The parents of one of our older boys have become identified with the Mormon church. At the opening of school this fall they tried to persuade him to attend the Mormon school, refusing to allow him to come here as a boarding pupil as he had done before. Undaunted by the opposition of his parents and their lack of support he is here as a day pupil. Indeed we are happy to know the stand he had taken. One of our primary boys, too, objected so strenuously to attending the Mormon school that his parents yielded and we have had him in the home since early fall.

The number of boarding pupils this year is the largest it has ever been, both dormitories more than filled. It has been impossible to take all who have applied for admission.

One great encouragement in the work has been the usually regular attendance. The parents are gaining a fuller realization of the necessity of training their children. Each year they are learning more and more that if this training is gained they must work strenuously, and that by this means they will become better and more capable men and women. Let us hope and pray that the seeds here sown may ripen into an abundant harvest.—**Henrietta Miller.**

Have you read the leaflet story "From Wigwam to Pulpit"? If not, send for it (price .03).

## THE MOUNTAIN FIELD

The first message is from Mt. Vernon, Kentucky: It seems only yesterday that we were busily preparing for the opening of school and now we begin to realize that the school year has nearly half been lived. The shy awkward girl now fits naturally into our school life, each doing the task assigned with hearty good cheer, if not always satisfactorily. Our work schedule is changed every six weeks. There are some departments of work all have a desire to escape and for others there are many applications. If all could be detailed for cooking without any wielding of scrubbing brushes, they think they would be quite happy.

Each girl does her own washing and ironing. Our "baby" who, though 13 years of age is quite small, looked in astonishment when asked if she thought she could do her own washing and replied, "Goodness, gracious, yes. I done the washing for the whole family to home."

We have learned that she also kept the corn free from weeds, and did other work too heavy for her years. Her teachers do not find her very active in school work. Perhaps if she had not had so much hoe handle pedagogy she might display greater mental activity. Our aim is threefold as in all schools of our Woman's Board—to educate, the head, hand and heart, to give them a practical education which will fit them for life's duties and responsibilities. There is a time for study, for school, for work and play. Occasionally there are social evenings when the young people of the town are invited. These are always looked forward to with interest. Recently the Junior Endeavorers asked to give a party for the two teachers who superintend the society. Permission being granted they entered into the preparations with so much enthusiasm that work, lessons and everything else were forgotten. Arrangements were made and all expenses of entertainment met by them. The decorations were quite elaborate, necessitating many trips to the attic and nothing was left undone to make the affair a success even to inviting two "grown up" boys "so their teachers would have some one to talk to." The leader in this was one of our most troublesome girls whose only safety is in being kept busy. She worked off enough energy to keep her almost angelic for several days.

Then we had a day given over to the kindergartners. It was hard to tell who were the happiest ones, the little tots who trudged away with their huge cloth dollies under their arms, the fond mothers, or their teacher, who is their idol. When their mammas have occasion to reprove them they tell them that Miss C. does not do that way and in extreme cases threaten to report them to her.

At Christmas time we had a large tree and many beautiful gifts sent by our unknown friends of the North. First they presented their "gifts to the King." A manger had been arranged in a corner of the room and in it they placed a part of their own gifts—which had



been reserved and marked by the older girls for the poor children of the town who had no one to provide Christmas cheer for them. Thus, by showing the real Christmas spirit—"giving to one of the least of these"—they added to their own joy.

Our dormitory is taxed to its fullest capacity, in fact there is an overflow into the halls. One girl who wanted to bring two sisters and said they would be willing to sleep three in a single bed if they could come! It is hard to say **no** when we know what it would mean to them to be here.

The change in the pupils who have been here even for a short time is very gratifying. There are always some who disappoint us, but they probably are helped more than we realize and must go away with higher ideals, even though not conscious of it. Thank you for your loyal support and co-operation.—**Jessie L. Turner.**

From the Laura Sunderland School comes the following Christmas message: As I told you last year, generous friends make the Christmas season a happy time for our girls, by their loving thought and busy fingers, long weeks in advance of the final arrival of the big box with its valued and beautiful gifts. This year with the woe of the great world-war beating at one's heart, and seeing the need about us, it seemed a selfish thing to let the Christmas, gladdened for us through the mercy of the loving Father, pass without an effort to contribute something to the relief of the suffering, and pausing, pay homage to the Prince of Peace. Hence it was decided to make it a giving Christmas too.

Considering that the Yuletide follows so closely upon the heels of Thanksgiving at which time the girls give so splendidly of their earning at wash-tub or sewing machine from their meagre allowances or summer investment money, it seemed wise to lay less stress upon the material gift than the rededication of self to the King. Each class has been swept into line by the rising tide of enthusiasm, and has a special family to care for. Dolls, toys, books, little frocks, a tree, a dinner and a bed fitted out for a baby have been provided. Some of the money comes from the sale of home-made candy, some from the making and stringing of China berry beads, etc.

It is good to be in the ranks of workers. A bright faced girl has just left the office who presented such a problem during the first weeks of the year that we doubted her ability to learn. But the awakening has come, she is now fairly racing along, her beaming face testifying to her pleasure in being able to do things. One of the teachers said of her the other day, "I think I have never seen such development of mind in anyone in the same length of time."

After the inquiry was made, the other day as to who were going home for the holidays, Beda came to ask if she might remain here. She said, "I feel that I owe every cent I can pay to the school that is doing everything for me, so if you will let me stay I can give my travel money, if they send me any, and do some work too." Though



a very busy girl she has found time this fall to make a number of little garments for children in whom she became interested during the long and fatal illness of their mother.

A little corps of singers has made frequent visits to homes where there are aged or sick people, reading and singing to them, getting quite as much pleasure out of it as they give, and probably more real benefit.

Thus you see how much we have to make us a glad, thankful household; and in reckoning our blessings, be assured that the loving friends who pray and give to the maintenance of our work are never forgotten.—**Melissa Montgomery.**

The Farm School messages are always of deep interest to a very large circle of young people's organizations:

You may be interested to know that ten years ago to-day I first saw Farm School and the mountains of Western North Carolina. In trying to get hold of the great work the Board has undertaken in these mountains, whether I have succeeded in these ten busy years or not, one thing is certain the work has succeeded in getting hold of me. This splendid work grows bigger and more fascinating year by year. The more we know of it the more we see still to learn. The more we do the more we find still to be done. Our disastrous fire of a year ago seems to have acted as a huge advertisement and while we have been unable to take more than half our usual number, more applications than ever have come in and more worthy needy boys than ever before have heard of and sought the help they so greatly need, from Farm School. When I wrote you in September last, we were using every effort in order that our new buildings might be ready to receive the boys on the day appointed for opening school. When the day arrived the boys came in such numbers as to fill every available space, and many more than usual had to be refused entrance because of limited accommodations for this school year.

You may be interested to know what new buildings we have and what they are like. They are four in number all on brick foundations cemented over. The walls are covered with shingles stained gray, while the roofs are white asbestos. The class room building is a one-story structure containing five splendid class rooms, well lighted arranged around a wide corridor. There are also two offices in the building. The largest class room is being used at present as an assembly hall and chapel, but it does not hold one hundred people even when crowded so we are hoping very much to have our new chapel before school opens in the fall when we expect to have over a hundred boys.

The Refectory is built in the shape of a tee. The long beautiful dining room, one story high, forms the front part of the building. This room is equipped with twelve well made heavy tables, each large enough to seat ten persons and strong enough to carry sufficient food for twice that number of hungry boys. Off the dining room is the

dish room, kitchen and bakery, all of good size, well lighted and equipped with modern appliances. Underneath this section of the refectory on the sloping hillside is ample cellar room, a large refrigerator and a well equipped laundry. An elevator capable of carrying about half a ton of kitchen supplies is a great convenience, while in a small annex a storage battery outfit is being placed which will be invaluable in giving us a few lights throughout the night as well as supplying power during the day for our electric appliances.

Now we will tell you of our two new dormitories—our special pride. Each building is two stories high, each story is built for eighteen boys and a master, or house father. Each story has a fine large open front porch. An attractive living room with open fireplace and two hot air registers. This room is of sufficient size and sufficiently ventilated to allow the eighteen boys and the master to spend their evenings together profitably and in comfort—studying, reading or playing games. In each dormitory is bath room (with shower), linen closet and master's room. But best of all is an open air sleeping porch for nine boys on either side of a wide well heated dressing corridor. Sleeping in the open air has been greatly enjoyed by the boys and I believe it accounts, at least in part, for the fact that the boys have remained well while all about us has raged severe colds, La Grippe and other indoor epidemics.

Although unable to accommodate our usual number of boys this year we are indeed thankful that enough rebuilding has been completed to permit us to give needed aid to between sixty and seventy worthy boys.

Our graduating class consists of twelve young men who have made rapid improvement while here. They are all professing Christians and will, we believe, become worthy citizens, a credit to themselves, the school, the church and the nation.

I am sure you also will be sorry that we have not room to take more boys when I tell you that of the nine boys of our first form five are grown men and have learned to read, write, add and subtract since they came to us last September. Five, fine, strapping, full-blooded Americans who through no fault of theirs have, until now, had no opportunity to secure an education and would still be without such an opportunity were it not for the friends of Farm School who make it possible for us to carry on this splendid work.

When we think that other nations are giving their best thought to planning and training for war, when we think that the very flower of the civilized world's young manhood is being sacrificed on the altar of war, when we hear the world's call to the United States for Christian leadership—a call which if met must be met by the young men of the United States—we feel anew our growing responsibility to our church and nation. In conclusion I would suggest; in view of the fact that not only are our young men of the Southern Mountains in great need of help but also because of present world conditions these

young men will be needed as never before, that we count as all joy any sacrifice of time or money we may be permitted to make in assisting these young men in their preparation to meet this world's call.  
—J. P. Roger.

## NEW MEXICO

As the general theme for the coming year of mission study is to be "The Two Americas" and we are to recommend "Old Spain in New America" as the home mission text book, the old files of field letters, leaflets and magazines will be of new value. In looking over some of these files from our New Mexico workers it has been interesting to find many prophecies, and, a few years later, their fulfillment.

For instance, Mr. Ross of the Menaul School, Albuquerque, described in one letter the wonderful climate, the attractions and resources of the State (or territory, as it was then) and predicted a time when Americans would find this out and come crowding in. Five years later a letter states that "New Mexico is rapidly filling up with Americans and the Mexican boys see that their opportunities are enlarged to the extent that they can use the English language and do business with the American. The fathers are eager for the boys to learn. There are other sentences such as "You will live to realize what a splendid investment you have made by putting money into the work for these splendid boys at Menaul." "I have great hope for our new State and believe this work at Menaul is a great factor in preparing the way and establishing prosperous homes, schools and churches." Mr. Ross and others who went to the Mexicans of our U. S. years ago, are now experiencing the joy of answered prayer.

This message is flashed over the wires just as we go to press: "Rev. Carlos Cordova, pastor of the Spanish work in Las Vegas and Santa Fé, and one of our Menaul boys, came to us for ten days and gave us some very earnest gospel messages. As a result twelve united with our church yesterday, most of them from homes of the early mission school pupils. In all forty-four confessed faith in Christ. J. C. Ross."

A note from the Spanish work at Los Angeles, California, is another verification of the rewards for service. Miss Boone is retiring after years of faithful service, and writes: "Thirty-two years ago I was preparing myself for the position of teacher of a mission school for Mexican children. It was started here in Los Angeles in 1884 and I remained until 1907, since which time I have been a visiting missionary to Mexicans. . . . God has given me to see a great work grow from a small beginning and I feel rich in blessed memories. It seems to me old Mexico will be more helped by missionary effort now in California and other States of our southwest than by the work of strange missionaries who may go there after peace has come. Her own people will be her best missionaries if they are well taught Christians. This is our opportunity and our privilege."

A personal note from a plaza teacher indicates some of the patience required for this sort of work. "There are more boys in school than girls, and the boys seem more ambitious for higher schools than the girls. The children are bright and try so hard to learn, but some of their expressions are amusing. I have tried to teach sanitation and cleanliness, and when I asked them in review to name five things they should do each day in order to keep healthy, one said, 'Wash our face and hands, bathe our body, learn our lessons, pray, comb our hair.'"

MR. McCONNELL, a new worker at Menaul, writes: "Since I am a class room teacher naturally my interest is somewhat greater in that line than in some others. This year we have a splendid company of young men who are genuinely interested in everything which pertains to education and progress.

Our custom has been to post the averages of the leaders in the different classes in a conspicuous place in one of the halls. This seems to be a great incentive for friendly rivalry. Some of our boys have had high averages ever since they have been in school. They are especially fond of studying government and anything of similar interest. They know more about Civics in the ninth grade than many college students do when half through college. It is rather pathetic when a boy comes here who is unable to speak a word of English. Generally they set themselves to the task and soon can make their wants known in the new language (English).

Menaul has never had so much athletic spirit as now, especially this is true in regard to football. We have four teams and every boy seems highly interested in this sport. Our boys have not lost a single game so far this season, winning in two games with the Albuquerque High School and in a game with the Rio Grande Industrial School. We had hoped to have the gymnasium ready for basketball season, but a lot of work must be done before this can be realized.

Our boys enjoy baseball and have a fairly good team, but they do not seem to enter into baseball as they do into football. We also have an inter-scholastic field meet with Albuquerque schools in the springtime.

Nearly all the boys can sing and some are highly talented in this line. Quite a number play the violin and we have a good band. I never saw so many boys together who were so generously musical by nature.

But let us pass on now to the religious side. Some of them come from Catholic homes and we have even had parents remove their sons from school because they were afraid the boys would become Protestants. However such does not occur very often. The majority of our pupils are Protestants. They seem to enjoy taking part in public meetings and are especially gifted in prayer. Last year I was the leader at one of the Christian Endeavor meetings and very often six or eight of the boys were on the floor anxiously but patiently waiting for an opportunity. We have a time limit of one hour, and I

made three attempts to close the meeting before accomplishing my purpose. In my home community I have led young people's meetings when it was necessary to insert extra songs and prayers in order to occupy the time. But such is not the case in the Menaul Christian Endeavor. Many of the boys know a number of Psalms by memory and also a number of other chapters from the Bible. We often have a Bible verse quoting contest. It is almost incredible the number of verses some of them can quote and give the references. Surely the possibilities of New Mexico lie in the training of her youth of which over fifty per cent are Spanish Americans."

A former teacher gave \$2,000 for a gymnasium building for Menaul, the boys have helped much with the work, and now the Woman's Board has completed the fund for equipment, etc., and we may think of the boys as carrying off all the trophies in the community!

## PORTO RICO

The first "message" comes from the western end of the island and is from the Marina Mission, Mayaguez: As many of you know, I am now in Mayaguez at the Marina School. The work is new and the environment is new, therefore I am having many new and interesting experiences. A Kindergarten has been started this year. We have this in the morning and a play time in the afternoon in the Day Nursery. Several Porto Rican girls are taking the training so that they may be able to conduct other Kindergartens some time. These girls seem to be especially fitted for this kind of work. Our Kindergarten is small because we have only a small room in which to hold it, but we hope that it will not be long until we can more fully meet the needs of the community.

The children are very interesting and say many funny things. We have the names of objects in the room printed in English and fastened to the object and use games to teach the names. This interests them and we often hear the children teaching each other English. We have a victrola record of "The Little Red Hen," which is told so dramatically that the children understand it. They always ask for the story of "Little Red American Hen." We have a lunch each day and before eating the children have a little prayer. One little boy would not eat at home until his father and mother would pray as they do in the Kindergarten before they eat. The daily toothbrush drill is much enjoyed by the children. One little boy asked his teacher to examine his teeth to see if any had turned gold yet.

Our Primary room is also full. These children work hard and are learning to read in both languages. We also have English classes for the girls in the Industrial Department. The Day Nursery takes care of the small children and babies whose mothers go out to work. It is a great blessing to these mothers to have some place where the children are safe and well cared for.

We have a large Sunday School with an attendance of about 150. The Primary Department is graded and growing larger with an average attendance of 55. Practically all the children in the Day School and Industrial Department attend our Sunday School.

I wish to thank all the Colorado people for their kind greetings and for the many expressions of interest in the work sent me from time to time.—**Leah Thompson.**

Another message from this station shows the really wonderful growth of the work at this strategic point. The only limit to the possibilities of service is the lack of funds with which to increase the necessary accommodations and equipment. This is the brief story: In 1907 the chapel school house was dedicated. In September the school opened with fifty pupils in only lower grades. Next a lot with old house purchased making possible another class room. The ground cultivated and shrubs, trees and flowers started. (The cocoanut trees planted in 1908, about two feet high, have borne fruit this year.) Another purchase of ground and a house for the native pastor. Next money for a school building. Then another uninhabitable native house made habitable for a Day Nursery. Classes multiplied for drawn work, lace making and basketry. Women employed and paid for work at home while their babies were given proper care in the Nursery. The latest addition to the force is the district nurse—a young woman trained in our Presbyterian Hospital at San Juan.

As 1916 was ushered in the people were crowded in the little church looking at pictures and hearing the story of Christ's life. Services of this kind are possible because about eight years ago the young people of Erie Presbytery sent a stereopticon to their missionary, Miss Hazen. This form of New York celebration is in strong contrast to the former harmful practices of that community.

**Presbyterian Hospital, San Juan, Porto Rico:** One day last August I was called to the 'phone early in the morning to hear from the Weather Bureau the message "Be prepared for the worst! A cyclone is coming this way, and may strike Porto Rico." The usual precautions were taken, doors and windows nailed and barred, and then the waiting and suspense for several hours; but during that time all were busy keeping the patients dry. The rain came down in torrents, through the roof, into the beds—everything in the hospital was soaked. The wind blew such a gale that it was not safe to walk over the bridges that connect the separate buildings of the hospital, on account of flying shingles and pieces of zinc which blew from the roof. Imagine our relief and gratitude when news came that the storm had passed by and we were safe again! The thought uppermost in my mind was "Will these old buildings stand against this gale?" for they shook and trembled. Next year, during the cyclone we will be in our new cement buildings with better equipment and protection against storms of winds and tide.

It is such appeal as the following that makes the work an absolute necessity. A poor man from an inland town asks for admission to the hospital. He says he needs an operation. He cannot work because of his trouble, and his children are starving. Could the operation be done he would be able to work and take care of his family. Then comes the appeal for a bed and for an early operation, and the request that he be notified at once when he may come. Such letters as this are of every day occurrence.

Formerly patients were given testaments on leaving the hospital, to carry to their home. This year another method was adopted—that of giving each patient a testament on **entering** the hospital, then, during the sickness and convalescence, hearing the stories of the Gospel read each day they become familiar to them and on leaving the hospital they have a knowledge of the real truth contained in the Bible and of God's love for them. One morning five testaments had been distributed in the men's ward, when one man who was in bed said: "I would like one too, but I cannot read. Would you give me one for my little daughter the day I go home, for she can read to me what I have heard read here."

Little Damiana Molina was suffering with an abscess of the leg. She was operated on, and the doctor found that the entire inside of the bone was diseased. It was cut open and scraped from top to bottom. It took four more operations before this little girl was well enough to go home. During the convalescent period between operations she made herself so useful and helpful to the other sick children in the ward—letting her own dinner get cold many times to feed a baby or some one more helpless than herself, or stopping to comfort a little sufferer when the nurses were busy, that she became a great pet and favorite with doctors and nurses, so much so that a complete nurse's uniform, including cap, was given her. She was called "Polly Anna of the Hospital." When her father came to take her home she cried, and did not want to go. We would have liked to keep her, but she was able to go, and her bed was needed for a little boy with the same trouble, who had already been operated on seven times before coming here. We are hoping he also may be cured.—**Jennie Ordway.**

Dr. Hildreth has been on a vacation to the States, and while here spent some time attending clinics at New York hospitals in order to "brush up" by watching other surgeons at work. He returned to plunge into the new hospital plans and your "transmitter" did not ask for a message from him. Next time there will be volumes from our hospital. The reports of the year register 22,198 treated during 1915, more than any year in the history of the hospital. Of these 4,112 were men, 3,440 women and 3,211 children. But the "very latest" word from the Hospital is "**Ground was broken February 19th for the new buildings.**"

## UTAH FIELD

Our Utah messages must have been lost in the air for no "wireless" has reached New York.

The superintendent of schools of the Woman's Board has visited the field since our October issue and bears testimony to the splendid results of our investments. With the exception of Salina, St. George and Gunnison the small day schools of the Woman's Board are no more in Utah, and in these three stations emphasis is placed on "Community work." The Ferron School has grown so that six teachers are now commissioned and some industrial training has been added to the curriculum. The patient, faithful seed sowing seems rewarded in this confidence of the people.

The Utah extension work of the U. S. Department of Agriculture gives a splendid tribute to the work of the young people and the women. Boys Clubs are organized for poultry and pig raising and for all kinds of farming. Girls' Clubs teach also the development of soil, raising of garden products and canning, preserving, etc.

The report for 1915 gave the sum of \$63,843 as the total value of these products at a cost of \$3,358. While the Government is doing this fine work for the physical development of the State and people, let us be all the more earnest in our service for their spiritual well-being.

("Scholarship News" of the two boarding schools and one or two leaflets will be sent on application.)

### From "Transmitter" to "Transformer".

We hear much these days of germs of one kind or another. How about your **missionary germ**? Is it infectious? Are you developing the cultures? Keep at it until they take deep root throughout your system and spread contagion to others. This pamphlet is full of **good germs** with transforming qualities—if properly treated.

The central "Wireless Station" is located at 156 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

Chief Operator—M. Josephine Petrie.

Sub-stations with each synodical and presbyterial secretary for young people's work.

Are your connections clear?

Do you get prompt response?

If not, investigate the wires.

Perhaps your connection with the Highest Power is interrupted.

Here is one link: And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ. Col. 3: 23, 24.